

OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Policy

Instruction

BP 6006

Quality School Development: Community of Schools

The Board of Education (Board) is deeply committed to the vision of Oakland being home to high quality public education options for all students and families, no matter their race, ethnicity, zip code or income. To realize this vision, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop a citywide plan that promotes the long-term sustainability of publicly-funded schools across Oakland that represent quality and equitable educational options.

The Board recognizes that it has oversight over all Oakland public schools, both those run by the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) and those run by various charter school operators and also acknowledges that it has a fiduciary responsibility to maintain the fiscal health and well-being of OUSD and its schools in order to provide a high-quality education to its students. The Board also recognizes that this is a competitive landscape with limited resources, and the OUSD Board and each charter school board is working to ensure that each student has what they need to succeed. Still, it is the Board's categorical expectation that all education providers operating or desiring to operate school programs in Oakland - district or charter – as well as families, staff, community members and labor unions, will accept shared responsibility for the sustainability of our school system and embrace the idea that we: (i) do not operate in silos, (ii) are interdependent in our efforts to serve all students and families; and (iii) need to act with consideration of the larger community of schools. We also recognize the challenging work ahead of building and rebuilding trust among the diverse members of our community in realizing this vision.

The Board is acutely aware of the legal constraints that limit its formal authority. Current state law does not currently allow the Board comprehensive authority on the location, authorization, oversight, and management of charter schools in Oakland. However, the Board is committed to establishing more high quality school programs and understands that this vision will not come without fiscal, legislative, and political challenges. The Board is prepared for the journey ahead and is committed to advocating for legislative changes that will result in greater and more effective control of the regulatory environment in which the school district operates.

To this end, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to increase access to high quality public school options for the students and families of Oakland using **quality, equity, utility, sustainability, and community benefit*** as guiding principles and factors during the redesign and reconfiguration of the OUSD that builds upon the current work of the Blueprint for Quality Schools process. This redesign should consider all OUSD-run schools and charter schools authorized by OUSD and Alameda County.

The Superintendent shall:

1. Use, and work with the Board to modify where needed, the Asset Management, Charter Authorization, Enrollment, Equity, Results Based Budgeting, School Governance, and Quality School Development policies as the guiding policies to create a **city-wide plan** by which all schools - both OUSD-run schools and charter schools authorized by OUSD and Alameda County - will be engaged, assessed, and leveraged to deliver more high quality school options in Oakland;
2. Address specific issues in such city-wide plan that include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Facilities- how OUSD can best leverage vacant, underutilized, and surplus properties and utilize facility use agreements to strategically engage all Oakland public schools-district or charter- so that (i) high-quality publicly funded schools across Oakland are able to serve all of its students, (ii) a fiscally sound number of schools exist given OUSD's student population and (iii) schools are located where more high quality options are needed.
 - b. Enrollment and Transportation - how OUSD can work with all Oakland public schools district or charter - to better articulate feeder patterns across Oakland to ensure more **predictability** for families. This body of work should also include how charter schools will serve the same diverse populations of students, including students with special needs, Newcomers, unsheltered, low-income, foster, and English Language Learner students, as OUSD schools so that the highest needs students are not concentrated only in OUSD schools. Additionally, the superintendent shall work to articulate a process by which charter schools may rejoin the OUSD SELPA to facilitate the city-wide plan to provide an excellent, equitable education to all Oakland students.
 - c. Authorization- how OUSD can strengthen its role in oversight and accountability to ensure that all charter schools operating in Oakland are providing a high quality education and working to address inequities at their schools.
 - d. Sharing best practices - how best practices can be shared across all Oakland public schools, e.g., professional development, recruitment and retention of educators and other collaborative opportunities that improve equitable educational access for all Oakland students.
 - e. Defined Autonomies- how OUSD can best support continued innovation within OUSD schools and accelerate the number of high-quality school options within OUSD (i.e., by providing district schools similar autonomies to charter schools).

Deliver such plan to the Board by November 15, 2018, which will be ultimately voted on by the Board in January 2019, after sufficient community engagement and input.

*All Oakland public school students shall receive a high quality equitable education based on what they need using Board-approved indicators and metrics to measure improvement and success.